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23 May 1947

Mr. Joseph Brinckell
President
American War Correspondents Ass'n
Hotel Roosevelt
Madison at 45th Street
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Joe!

Thank you very much for your kind letter of 21 May and for the invitation to address the War Correspondents Association in June. This is a rather ticklish matter, and, if you will permit, I should like to have a raincheck on that invitation for some time later on in the year. There are several things which will make it impossible for me to come to New York with any certainty in June. One is that some time I shall have to leave town on a trip, and the second is, with Congress still in session, I may be called for hearings at almost any time so if you will let me come up later, I shall be most delighted.

Please let me give my congratulations to you on being the President of such a good outfit. I am like the dean of the old school, and I like to see all the U.C.M. Missouri boys make good.

Again thank you very much for your kindness, and I hope you will keep me in mind for later in the year.

Sincerely,

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R. H. WILLIAMS
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence

Departed May 7

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May 21, 1947

Dear Admiral Hillenkoetter:

The American War Correspondents Association, comprising 200 newspaper writers and radio commentators who served as accredited correspondents with our armed forces in the Pacific, European and other theaters of action, is holding a series of intimate, monthly, off-the-record dinners in New York, each of which is addressed by some distinguished man in public life. The meetings are very informal and the views expressed are not for publication but solely for background information, with the consent of the speaker. In this way the correspondents may keep themselves informed on current developments and help to enlighten the public as well.

As the president of the association (and a graduate of the U.S.S. Missouri !), I am especially eager to have you address our June dinner meeting, tentatively scheduled for the first or second Thursday evening in June, subject to your convenience. We shall be pleased to hear from you.

Sincerely,



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